

**The First Regional (EMRO)
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Effects of Passive Prenatal Smoking on Birth Weight and Gestational Age , Namin, 2008

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Introduction : One well-established risk factor in pregnancy is maternal smoking. There has been increasing interest in studying of the effects of passive smoking on the pregnancy outcome. In this study we examined the association of exposure to environmental tobacco smoke, with birth weight and gestational age .This study is a historical cohort. We recruited 152 newborn that referred to Namin urban health center for neonatal care. Subjects' anthropometric parameters at birth and their gestational age were taken from their prenatal care database. The histories of passive smoking were obtained by interviewing with mothers. We used SPSS Version 15 and K2 and T test for data analysis .we found positive history of exposure to passive smoking among 65 women (42.8%). The mean of birth weight and gestational age in exposed group was 3218 ± 520 gr., 269 ± 24 d; and 3248 ± 552 gr. and 277 ± 11 in the non exposed group. There wasn't any significant relationship between maternal passive smoking and gestational weight, but there was a significant relationship between maternal passive smoking and gestational age ($p=0.01$). The results show that passive smoking can affect birth gestational age. We need preventive interventions to encourage pregnant women and their family to avoid passive exposure to tobacco smoke.

Key words: passive smoking, prenatal, birth weight, birth age